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Grey Market Vehicles

ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS

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George H. Ryan
Secretary of State

A Message From the Secretary



My office has established requirements for the titling and registering of vehicles not originally manufactured in compliance with United States emission and safety standards. These vehicles are often referred to as "grey market" vehicles and must be modified to meet those standards.

This publication explains the procedures for obtaining titles and license plates for those vehicles and explains what documents are required for this office to approve the transactions.

For questions about the required federal modifications, contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you need more information about title and registration procedures, contact the Vehicle Services Department or call toll-free (800) 252-8980.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George H. Ryan".

George H. Ryan
Secretary of State

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What Are They?

Vehicles not originally manufactured in compliance with U.S. emission and safety standards are called grey market vehicles.

Federal law prohibits a grey market vehicle from being operated on public highways or sold until the vehicle is in compliance with federal regulations. Once in compliance, the vehicle is no longer considered a grey market vehicle.

Who Applies For Titles?

An Illinois resident who is the **initial buyer** of a grey market vehicle must provide federal documents and obtain an Illinois certificate of title. This requirement applies to those who are licensed as vehicle dealers as well as those who are not.

Subsequent buyers are not required to furnish the same federal documents. The assigned certificate of title will be accepted without further proof of compliance.

Forms Required

An application for Illinois title and registration (form VSD-190), or an application for Illinois title (VSD-330) if the vehicle will not be operated, must be properly completed and submitted along with the proper ownership documents, federal documents, tax forms and fees **to the Office of the Secretary of State**, Mail-In Title Audit Section (address on back).

OWNERSHIP DOCUMENTS

Foreign documents of ownership must be submitted. These documents must be origi-

nals, not copies, and must be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

Bill of Sale

A bill of sale is required if the seller is not a U.S. citizen and the sale occurred in a foreign country. The bill of sale should indicate the year, model, make and identification number of the vehicle and include the purchase price. It must be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

Model Year

If the ownership documents indicate a specific model year, that will be used on the certificate of title. Otherwise, any grey market vehicle manufactured between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31 will be identified on the title with a model year based on the following year.

FEDERAL DOCUMENTS

1. Customs form 7501, "Entry Summary," which shows the duty paid.
2. Acknowledgement from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that the vehicle conforms to its standards.
3. Acknowledgment from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that the vehicle conforms to its standards.

Items 2 and 3 are not required in the following condition:

- If the importer or importer's agent submits documentation from NHTSA or EPA indicating that the vehicle is in compliance with or is exempt from the U.S. emission and safety standards. Each of these forms must indicate the compliance or exemptions.

Note: If the applicant never received or has lost any of the federal documents listed, copies must be obtained from the appropriate federal agency before the title and registration will be processed.

Fees

Title — \$13

Passenger vehicle registration plates — \$48

Other registration fees vary according to gross weight, special use of vehicle, design of vehicle, business concern, etc.

Fee instrument must be made payable to the Secretary of State.

Taxes

Any motor vehicle sales tax due must be submitted with the proper tax form — RUT-25 if purchased from a foreign dealer, or RUT-50 if purchased from an individual. Tax must be made payable to the Department of Revenue, by separate fee instrument, but submitted with all other forms and documents to the Secretary of State's office.

Additional questions concerning the amount of tax due must be directed to the Department of Revenue (800) 732-8866 (toll free in Illinois), (217) 782-3336 or (312) 814-3239.

Insurance Claims

If a vehicle is destroyed or stolen before it is admitted by EPA and NHTSA, the Secretary of State's office will consider the vehicle as salvage and issue a salvage certificate **in the name of the insurance company** that paid the total loss claim.

An affidavit attesting that a total loss insurance claim has been filed against the insurance company must be submitted by the owner. This affidavit must identify the vehicle year, model, make and identification number as well as the name and address of the insurance company. The ownership documents and bill of sale, if applicable, must also be submitted.



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If a vehicle is recovered without structural damage caused by collision, fire, flood, theft, rust, or corrosion, the insurance company making payment on a total loss claim, or persons licensed as a used vehicle dealer, may exchange the salvage certificate for a certificate of title upon admission into the United States by EPA and NHTSA. The insurance company or licensed used vehicle dealer shall submit the required federal forms to the Secretary of State.

Where To Apply

IN PERSON

Customer Service Center
Howlett Building, 1st Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62756

BY MAIL

Vehicle Titles Division
Mail-In Title Audit Section
Rm. 626, Howlett Building,
Springfield, Illinois 62756

For more information, call (217) 782-9796.

Mandatory Vehicle Insurance

All motor vehicles registered and operated in Illinois must be covered by liability insurance—insurance that covers the property damage and/or injuries you may cause others in an accident.

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